

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 70 and 77 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 71 through 76, 78 through 80, 82, and 83 as follows:

1 - 70. (Cancelled)

71. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim ~~[[70]]~~ 76, wherein the ~~control~~ apparatus controls each of a plurality of cameras through the communication system.

72. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim ~~[[70]]~~ 76, wherein the ~~control~~ apparatus comprises a designation device adapted to designate a desired image on a screen of a display device.

73. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim ~~[[70]]~~ 76, wherein said control device inhibits another control apparatus from controlling the camera for a predetermined period of time.

74. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 73, wherein said control device releases the ~~other~~ another control apparatus from being inhibited from controlling the camera after the predetermined period of time has lapsed.

75. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~according to Claim 73~~, for communicating with a camera, the camera being controllable from each of a plurality of control apparatuses through a communication system, said apparatus comprising:

a connecting device adapted to connect to the camera; and

a control device adapted to inhibit others of the plurality of control apparatuses from controlling the camera in case one of the plurality of control apparatuses controls the camera through the communication system,

wherein said control device inhibits another control apparatus from controlling the camera for a predetermined period of time, and

wherein the ~~control~~ apparatus comprises a display device adapted to display a residual time ~~at which~~ for the control inhibition of the camera ~~is inhibited~~.

76. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~according to Claim 70~~, for communicating with a camera, the camera being controllable from each of a plurality of control apparatuses through a communication system, said apparatus comprising:

a connecting device adapted to connect to the camera; and

a control device adapted to inhibit others of the plurality of control apparatuses from controlling the camera in case one of the plurality of control apparatuses controls the camera through the communication system,

wherein the ~~control~~ apparatus comprises a display device adapted to display that the one of said plurality of control apparatuses controls the camera, when the control of the camera is inhibited.

77. (Cancelled)

78. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim ~~[[77]]~~ 82, wherein a plurality of cameras are controllable through the communication system, and wherein said controlling step comprises a step of controlling the plurality of cameras, through the communication system, by the one of the control apparatuses.

79. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim ~~[[77]]~~ 82, further comprising a step of displaying a plurality of images on the screen, and a step of designating one of the images displayed on the screen.

80. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim ~~[[77]]~~ 82, wherein said inhibiting step comprises a step of inhibiting the others of the plurality of control apparatuses from controlling the camera for a predetermined period of time.

81. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 80, further comprising a step of releasing the others of the plurality of control apparatuses from being inhibited from controlling the camera after the predetermined period of time has lapsed.

82. (Currently Amended) A method ~~according to Claim 77, further comprising a step~~ of controlling a camera, wherein the camera is controllable by each of a plurality of control apparatuses through a communication system, said method comprising the steps of:

controlling the camera through the communication system with one of the plurality of control apparatuses;

inhibiting the others of the plurality of control apparatuses from controlling the camera through the communication system in case the camera is controlled by the one of the plurality of control apparatuses through the communication system; and

displaying an indication that the camera is controlled by the one of the plurality of control apparatuses in a case where the control of the camera is inhibited.

83. (Currently Amended) A method ~~according to Claim 80, further comprising a step~~ of controlling a camera, wherein the camera is controllable by each of a plurality of control apparatuses through a communication system, said method comprising the steps of:

controlling the camera through the communication system with one of the plurality of control apparatuses;

inhibiting the others of the plurality of control apparatuses from controlling the camera through the communication system in case the camera is controlled by the one of the plurality of control apparatuses through the communication system, for a predetermined period of time; and

displaying the predetermined period of time.

84 - 95. (Cancelled)